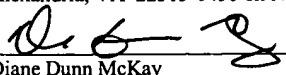




AF
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Docket No. 4296-144 US

The undersigned certifies that this communication is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as prepaid first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 16, 2005.


Diane Dunn McKay

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

_____ : Customer No.
In re Application of HIRAO et al. : 26817
: :
Serial No. 09/919,024 : Group Art Unit: 1625
: :
Filed: July 31, 2001 : Examiner: OH, Taylor Victor
: :
Title: METHOD FOR STARTING UP REACTOR : Confirmation No. 3715
: :
_____ x

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

In response to the Final Office Action dated June 6, 2005 please amend the above-identified application as follows: